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RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 0145
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RUEHBK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 0309
RUEHUP/AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST 0135
RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN 0169
RUEHOR/AMEMBASSY GABORONE 0141
RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 0145
RUEHLC/AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE 0147
RUEHSJ/AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE 0655
RUEHSV/AMEMBASSY SUVA 0127
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 0330
RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 5010
RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 6429
RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ 5635
RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA 3581
RUEHQT/AMEMBASSY QUITO 2294
RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 4331
RUEHAC/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION 6298
RUEHGE/AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN 1321
RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 7021
RUEHPO/AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO 1358
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 3799
RUEHRG/AMCONSUL RECIFE 7151
RUEHSO/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO 0841
RUEHRI/AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO 5133
RUEHC/DOI WASHDC
RUEAWJA/DOJ WASHDC
RUEAEPA/HQ EPA WASHDC
RUEANAT/NASA WASHINGTON DC
RUCPDC/NOAA WASHDC
RUEHRC/USDA WASHDC
RUCPDO/USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 BRASILIA 001803

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

DEPT PASS USAID TO LAC/RSD, LAC/SAM, G/ENV, PPC/ENV
TREASURY FOR USED IBRD AND IDB AND INTL/MDB
USDA FOR FOREST SERVICE: LIZ MAHEW
INTERIOR FOR DIR INT AFFAIRS: K WASHBURN
INTERIOR FOR FWS: TOM RILEY
INTERIOR FOR NPS: JONATHAN PUTNAM
INTERIOR PASS USGS FOR INTERNATIONAL: J WEAVER
JUSTICE FOR ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES: JWEBB
EPA FOR INTERNATIONAL: CAM HILL-MACON
USDA FOR ARS/INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH: G FLANLEY
NSF FOR INTERNATIONAL: HAROLD STOLBERG

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [SENV](#) [EAGR](#) [EAID](#) [TBIO](#) [ECON](#) [SOCI](#) [XR](#) [BR](#)

SUBJECT: EPA TRAININGS STRENGTHEN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ENFORCEMENT IN
SOUTH AMERICA

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1. (U) Summary: Using funds from OES, three trainings on environmental law enforcement were carried out by EPA experts in August 2007 in Medellin (Colombia), Lima (Peru), and Georgetown (Guyana). With support from the Regional Environmental HUB Office, ECON Offices in each respective country, and local environmental entities, a total of 87 people were trained. The trainings served as a starting point for participants to work on strengthening environmental law enforcement principles in each country. These courses help to build and strengthen the regional capacities to understand and enforce environmental laws. Working with local

partners, the HUB seeks to replicate these efforts in the region.
END SUMMARY.

Medellin, Colombia

¶2. (U) An EPA and OES sponsored Environmental Enforcement Training was carried out in the city of Medellin (Colombia) August 15-17, 2007. The training was organized by the HUB, Colombia's Ministry of Environment, Livelihood, and Territorial Development, Medellin's environmental entity Area Metropolitana del Valle Aburra, and the ECON Office in U.S. Embassy Bogota. Trainers included two federal agents from EPA's Criminal Investigations Division - Frank Garcia (Atlanta) and Ozzie Romero (Miami) and two facilitators from Colombia - Lida Contreras, public prosecutor, and Rodrigo Negrete, legal adviser for the Ministry of Environment, Livelihood, and Territorial Development. The public of 30 workshop participants included Colombian law enforcement officers, first responders, environmental enforcement program personnel, and related prosecutorial and judicial officials.

¶3. (U) Regional interests were well represented at the conference, demonstrated by two invitees from Peru - Alicia Abanto, from the Defensoria del Pueblo/Environmental Division, and Luis Flores Zuniga, a public prosecutor from Madre de Dios. For all participants, the conference enabled them to better understand how to prepare and respond to a broad array of environmental crime scenarios and officer safety issues at environmental crime scenes.

Lima, Peru

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¶4. (U) An Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Principles Course and Train-the-Trainer Program was held on August 20-23, 2007 in Lima, Peru. The training was organized by the HUB, USAID/Peru, Peru's governmental environmental entities CONAM (Consejo Nacional de Medio Ambiente) and INRENA (Instituto Nacional de Recursos Naturales), ECON Office in U.S. Embassy Lima, and ILEA (International Law Enforcement Academy). Trainers included two EPA experts - Davis Jones (DC) and Jorge Martinez (Puerto Rico) - and two Colombian facilitators - Gloria Valenzuela, public prosecutor, and Jesus Emilio Solano, from Colombia's Ministry of Environment, Livelihood, and Territorial Development.

¶5. (U) The 34 participants were provided with a framework for designing effective environmental compliance strategies and enforcement programs. The audience was diverse, which helped bring a very balanced tone to discussions and practical exercises. The group included two invitees from Ecuador's Ministry of Environment - Robert Cazco, legal adviser, and Irma Suarez, National Coordinator of the Clean Production Program.

¶6. (U) Among many outcomes, participants called for a virtual network formed by the event participants to continue communicating electronically on the topic of environmental crimes and principles. In addition, a similar training, but more focused on governance, in a regional context, inviting representatives from all Andean countries was discussed.

Georgetown, Guyana

¶7. (U) An Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Principles Course and Train-the-Trainer Program took place August 20-23, 2007 in Georgetown (Guyana). The training was organized by the HUB, the ECON Office at U.S. Embassy Georgetown and Guyana's Forestry Commission and Ministry of Agriculture. The event was carried out by two EPA experts: Susan Bromm and Karin Leff, both from Washington, DC. A total of 23 participants went over hypothetical case studies to examine the range of motivations to comply with or violate environmental laws.

¶18. (U) Two university-based participants from the course are forming an email based collaborative support group to carry on/follow up on issues addressed in the training.

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CONCLUSION

¶19. (U) Trainings such as these help countries such as Peru and Colombia translate their relatively strong legal framework into better environmental protection. By providing a better understanding of environmental principles and improved law enforcement to key contacts in these and neighboring countries (i.e. Ecuador), the USG is helping achieve conservation and sustainable management of natural resources in partner countries more effectively.

¶10. (U) These trainings are also a stepping-stone to creating a regional law enforcement network in South America. One important complement to these trainings would be to include experts from USFWS in order to bring CITES-related topics to these hypothetical case studies. This way, the topic of wildlife trafficking could be inserted into the capacity-building courses.

SOBEL